

THE YARMOUTH ISLE OF WIGHT TOWN TRUST



TOWN HALL
YARMOUTH
ISLE OF WIGHT
PO41 0NS

Annual Town Meeting - Report on the year ended 31 March 2015

Introduction: the Mission & Strategy of the Yarmouth Town Trust (i.e. What are we here for and how to we intend to achieve it) will be displayed in future on our Website. Anyone who did not receive a copy through their letterbox 18 months ago and would like a printed copy please do let me know.

At their last meeting in March the Trustees confirmed their intention of continuing to provide the Town Council with an information report after each of their quarterly meetings and in-between these meetings if there is anything of significance to say.

They also confirmed at the same meeting the Trusts main priorities at this point in time being:-

The Town Hall
Mill Road cottages

Children's Play Area
Seawall maintenance & repair

Archives/Website Phase I

1 - Financial Matters

A - The annual accounts of the Trust will be considered by the Trustees at their next meeting on the 11th May. There are not expected to be any unpleasant surprises nor items of a significant nature.

B - The Town Hall was used on 193 days during the year ended 31 March 2015, compared with 179 days in the previous year.

C - The Trustees have unanimously agreed to adopt a policy where: -

"The Trust does not rent at any time to any body where the trustees are concerned that there could be a serious risk to the safety and integrity of the Town Hall, which is the charitable purpose of the Trust."

D - The Trust made a donation of £300 towards the Yarmouth Old Gaffers Festival last year.

Once the accounts have been approved by the Trustees, they will be sent as usual to the Charity Commission and eventually appear on the Charity Commission's website.

2 - Archives and other historic assets

A - Phase 1 of the Project to make more of the trust's historic material available to the public is underway and the target is to have some 300 to 350 historic photos categorised and displayed on the website by the end of the year. Rodney Corbett has gathered the support of a number of well-known local residents to help identify those people and places we are unsure of. Anyone who has any photographs of interest they are willing to include may we ask them to contact Rodney or myself - we do not take possession of them unless you want us to, only make a copy.

B - Sales of the Francis Percival Blake prints have now reached £2,839 to date. All proceeds go to our Town Hall Maintenance Fund.

C - Town Hall: Renovation of the notice boards has now been completed and the windows are expected to follow suit this year.

D - WW1 Exhibition: A very successful and well-attended World War 1 exhibition was held on St James' day and also on August 3rd in the Town Hall. Our thanks must go to Rodney Corbett for all his hard work that made this event possible.

3 - Yarmouth Recreation Ground

- Children's Play Area: The Trust will be continuing its support for the re-generation of the Children's Play Area and working with the Town Council wherever it is able to do so.
- Sports Pavilion: An area of 160 square metres was removed from Village Green application, and the situation is still on-going regarding the possible construction of a new Yarmouth "Sports Pavilion" for the inhabitants of Yarmouth and the Football Club. The Football Club is about to present the first draft of an outline plan for consideration together with initial costing's.

4 - The Common

The common has now returned to its normal state following completion of the rebuild of the Tennyson/Bouldnor Road by Island Roads.

The state of the sea wall continues to give cause for concern and the Trust is still in correspondence with the IWC about this issue.

Renovation of the memorial benches is on-going and will hopefully be completed this year. We are still trying to track down contact names for some of them.

5 - Trustees

The Trustees remained unchanged during the year. However, after 3 years as Chairman Richard Leonard announce his wish to retire from this role and the undersigned (Martyn Collinson) was voted in for the forthcoming year. The Trust would like to thank Richard for his hard work and commitment during this time. The present trustees are:

John Caulcutt, Rodney Corbett, Steve Cowley, Mike Dorey, Richard Leonard, Sylvia Mence, Sue Poston, Bernie Tucker, and myself.

To conclude, this report will be placed on the Town Hall notice board tomorrow.

Martyn Collinson
Chairman